

Trig  
ACT Test  
NHS  
Meeting

PEP  
BAND  
FOOTBALL  
PLAYOFFS  
STATE  
VOLLEYBALL

FAMILY  
REUNION  
BROTHER'S  
SOCCER GAME  
NEW BABY  
COUSIN

Video  
Games  
Pizza  
Party  
Road  
Trip

Girlfriend  
Movie  
Date  
Winter  
Ball

# VIKING SAGA

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Stress  
Among  
Teenagers



# Students are over-stressed



AMANDA DECKER  
STAFF WRITER

Everyday while in high school, a student gets stressed out.

There are a billion different reasons why students get really stressed. It could be from being bullied, relationship stress, family conflicts, crammed schedules etc.

In high school students get too much homework. That's why students don't want to turn their homework in. They get really overwhelmed and feel like they can't do it.

Teachers should at least give less homework, and see how it affects the kids. And see how much of their stress level goes down.

Getting overly stressed can lead

to anxiety or panic attacks, irritability and moodiness, sadness or depression, and insomnia. Knowing this, kids get stressed out everyday.

Students are wondering how they can keep their stress under control. According to Kidshealth.org "the most helpful method of dealing with stress, is learning how to manage the stress that comes along with any new challenge."

Stress-management skills work best when they're used regularly, not just when the pressure's on. Knowing how to de-stress and doing it when things are relatively calm can help you get through challenging circumstances that may arise.

This example is sort of related to what I am talking about. Let's say you are a parent and you have three kids in different sports or ac-

tivities. Having to try and run them all around and get them where they need to go, and actually make sure they make it on time. Then having errands to run for something completely different.

Now you can see what happens when everyone gets stressed to the point where they can't take it anymore.

What I feel is that everyone needs to calm down and take a deep breath. Getting really worked up could cause some serious damage to your body.

I agree that everyone gets stressed, and everyone gets anxiety. If you ever need help talk to a parent, teacher, guidance counselor, or maybe even a doctor.

They care and will always be there when you need help, don't be afraid to ask.

**As you progress in school, you're beginning to take on harder classes. On top of that, most kids have jobs and responsibilities outside of school. When you have all these things, it can create a stressful environment.**

-Junior Keytan Lemburg

**As a junior I feel there is a lot of school work and along with having a job and a fall sport I have a lot of responsibility to take care of.**

-Junior Jaydon Casillas

**I feel that time management plays a big part in stress. If you have good time management and make a specific time in the day that fits with your schedule to do homework, then you're apt to be less stressed.**

-Junior Addisyn Dupler

## Today's teens are "stressed" by their own choice



JENNIFER CLEMENT  
CO-EDITOR

Everyone gets stressed. Life is made up of stress. When you are six, you are stressed because you don't have the 100-pack of crayons that everyone has. When you are sixteen, you are stressed because your crush is going to homecoming with someone else.

Stress will always be there and will never fully go away. Yes, stress stinks, but if you don't learn how to manage it early in life, it will destroy you!

High school is meant to be stressful. It is the teacher's way to teach you how to manage it cor-

rectly, and introduce you to the real world.

Studies have shown that if a high school student is involved in an extracurricular activity of any kind [sports, music, student group], the student develops important life skills earlier in life than those who do not involve themselves. Being involved while in high school can be very important to a student's future.

Involving yourself in activities is a choice. Hence, the word "extracurricular." It has little to nothing to do with the school day. You need to understand that when you sign up for an activity, you are signing away some of your time.

Students also complain that

classes are too hard. Well, college is not any better, so get used to it. Teachers just want the best for you. They are not giving you a mountain of homework because they love to watch you suffer. They know you can handle it.

Do I think that high school students are too stressed? No, I do not. Sorry for not sugarcoating it, but it does not get any better. So, if you ever find a genie's lamp, think before you wish your stress away.

High schoolers think that school is too stressful. In a way, it is, but it is so important. Think about where you would be if you had a stress-free life. I can almost guarantee that you would not be at the level you are now without stress.

## VIKING SAGA

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VikingMedia





# Harvest Season brings extra stress for some students

ALEX STOCKER  
CO - EDITOR

As the season of harvesting the bountiful crops of the Earth gets into full swing, there are some things that everyone, especially students, should know. The first of many things that should be known and taken into consideration is to be careful around equipment.

"Students should know that if they do get stuck behind a tractor on the road to just take it easy, and don't try and pass like a maniac," senior Bradley Schmidt said.

Sometimes when driving a tractor it can be difficult to see behind, especially if pulling a grain cart behind. One thing that is faulty with farm equipment is that they often times make it nearly impossible to see what's going on behind the equipment.

"Don't be somewhere you can't be seen," senior Derrick Hudnall said.

Those that live or work on a farm face the possibility of extra stress, especially when working crazy hours beyond going to school full time.

"I average 40 plus hours a week during harvest season," Schmidt said.

Schmidt isn't the only Northwest student that works a lot on a farm during harvest.

"I work six hours every day of the school week and about ten hours a day on the weekend," said Hudnall.

When working long hours like Hudnall and Schmidt, people might have to take off of school early to work and help harvest and get other things done around the farm.

"Sometimes I do get out of school to help harvest," Schmidt said.

Not only does getting out of school appeal to Schmidt, but harvesting also brings him a sense of pride.

"I enjoy the feeling that I'm helping feed the world," Schmidt said.

While harvesting the world's food there is also some life skills learned on the farm, such as responsibility.

"I'm in charge of running my own crew at the farm I work for, which is Sorrenson Land and Cattle," Schmidt said.

Working on a farm also brings about some dangers to those around the equipment or assisting those workers.

"Don't go walking up to a running machine as the farmer may not see you coming," Hudnall said.

There are multiple risks that farmers take when working in the fields, and those risks can

be decreased by people paying attention and making wise decisions.



Farmers work in the field to finish harvest.

PHOTOS BY ALEX STOCKER

## Northwest Marching Band concludes their marching season

JENNIFER CLEMENT  
CO - EDITOR

As the 2015 marching season came to a finish, the Northwest band students looked back and reflected upon their concluded season. The band had its good and bad times, but overall, it made a large impression on all of the students, especially the new members.

"My favorite part about band has been the sense of community. Especially because it is my freshman year, it has

been great to have people in different grades that care about my success. Almost everyone will go out of their way to help you, no matter what instrument you play or what group of friends you are in. I do think of the band as my family," freshman Jared Rosenlund said.

The band's 2015 marching show, Rimsky-Korsakov's Scheherazade, was a huge

- **First Place- UNK Band Days**
- **First Place- Harvest of Harmony Parade**
- **Excellent Rating- Harvest of Harmony Feild Show**
- **First Place- Columbus Marching Festival Parade**
- **Superior Rating- Columbus Marching Festival**
- **Superior Rating- NSBA State Band Competition**

success with the band students. They worked on their music starting in late July until the end of October. The band participated in three parades and four field competitions during their season. They went to Kearney, Columbus, Hastings, and have had many performances in their hometown of Grand Island.

"We have had a great season this year, it has probably been one of the cleanest bands as far as musical and marching achievements.

[These are] some of the best kids. [And this was] one of the biggest bands [we've had] in probably twenty years or so, if not in the history of the school. It really [has] been a great season," band director Shawn Pfanstiel said.

Even though the season has come to an end, the band has vowed to still stick together and stay a family.

"At band camp

when we all go to the events, like a pool party or the movie night, we are just together and we are bonding. That is when we really connect with the other kids, and become close, and that is when we make those relationships. I want to make an impact and I want to make people remember me. I want to leave a legacy and a difference in the band for the better," senior drum major Bre Dobesh said.



The Northwest marching band marches under the Eddy Street underpass at the Harvest of Harmony parade in October. PHOTO BY VIKING YEARBOOK STAFF



# Students help stream home games for Striv TV

MITCHELL EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

With people having such busy schedules now-a-days it can be hard to attend your home team's football or volleyball game. Northwest and other schools have a way to show those people a way to watch them while they are at work, on the move, or even in a different state. Northwest uses a program called Striv to broadcast home events all over the internet.

"Mr. Fisher and Mrs. Callihan got the school involved with Striv. I was later asked to help out," digital media teacher Colleen Childers said.

Childers and Callihan are in charge of running Striv, with the help from a couple of students to film the games.

"We have about 10-12 students who take turns helping stream the events," Childers said.

"I started helping out with Striv because I feel like it gives me good experience for a career in videography," junior Ryan Schneckloth said.

Striv is primarily ran by students, one runs the camera while the other student keeps track of the score and timer. Most of the students that help with Striv do it so they can get hours for community service. If a student would like to get a couple hours of community service done ask Mrs.

Childers.

Striv gets over 500 views when broadcasting a football game and about 200 views when broadcasting volleyball games.

"Striv means a lot to me. My family lives in Panama City Beach, FL, which is over 1,000 miles away. They can't make it back to see all my games, so they use Striv to watch a lot of them. It has made everything much easier. I'm really close with my family, knowing they are watching my games makes it feel like they're actually there with me. I am very thankful for Striv and all it has offered me and my family," senior Alexandra Carlini said.

With the rising popularity that Northwest has gained by helping people watch various home games through Striv some people may want to know where to go in order to watch these games.

"They can go to our school's website and click on the WATCH NOW icon in the lower right OR they can go directly to: <http://striv.tv/channel/ginw/>," Childers said.

With the growing number of people that use Striv to watch Northwest's different activities, not many know much about Striv. Striv has become a very helpful tool for those who may not be able to physically come to the games and Striv allows them to go online and watch the games. All of this is thanks to the people behind the camera.



Junior Mitzy Matul-Diaz, senior Alex Stocker, senior Austin Dammann, senior Christian Ellsworth, and junior Coleman Cooper prepare to record for Striv at a home volleyball game.

PHOTO BY COLLEEN CHILDERS

## Young Americans program comes to Northwest

AMANDA DECKER  
STAFF WRITER

What are the Young Americans? The Young Americans are a cast that travel across the globe and create a three-day workshop. They teach students a bunch of dances in different genres like Hip-hop, Rock'n roll, Jazz, or something classical from Broadway. They learn songs from popular artists like One Direction, Celine Dion, Aretha Franklin, and Shania Twain. They have a campaign called "Turn Up the Music". "Turn Up the Music" brings an outreach to the kids in schools through out the country. They want everyone to have fun and learn some new moves.

Junior Lauren Gebhardt who is involved in 14 Karat Gold, went to the camp this year, at Northwest.

"I think one of the things I'm most excited for is getting to work with the Young Americans. Working with them is such a privilege and it's a great way to learn more about performance. It's

also fun because a few weekends ago we had our kids' camp for 14 karat, and I was a teacher, but now I get to be the student and they are the teachers. I'm just really excited to get to do what I love for three days straight," Gebhardt said.

Vocal music teacher David Sackschewsky is hosting the camp at Northwest.

"I think its going to be a great opportunity for kids," Sackschewsky said.

"I think everyone that takes part will love it. It's definitely going to be an environment where the more musical arts people thrive, but even if singing or dancing isn't your thing, it's still a fantastic experience for you to take part in," Gebhardt said.

"There have been 42 students from Northwest that have participated in Young Americans. The students have fun teaching kids how to perform, sing, and dance. Many have ended up being music teachers, and they all just love the music experience," Sackschewsky said.

### Recent Northwest Students that joined the Young Americans

Dakota Radar  
Class of 2015

Katie Aguilar  
Class of 2014



# Senior Athletic Spotlight: Justin Fay

BRENDEN HOLLING  
STAFF WRITER

Tennis is mostly an unrecognized sport at Northwest High School. Most students don't know tennis legends like Roger Federer and Pete Sampras. But many students know the one and only tennis player at Northwest, senior Justin Fay.

Tennis isn't a part of the Northwest activities. Senior Justin Fay competes for the Grand Island Central Catholic [GICC] Crusaders.

Fay's favorite part about Northwest is the big poster in the main hallway that reads "WE LOVE JUSTIN," that was made by the cheerleaders. He calls it "The most wonderful, amazing, beautifully crafted, astounding, stupefying, breathtaking, stunning tennis poster ever." Fay also enjoys the various classes and activities offered at Northwest, as well as the teachers that instruct him.

He also competes in doubles matches but his main focus is the number one varsity position.

"My biggest challenge about tennis is constantly competing to hold my varsity position," Fay said.

Although Fay isn't a part of any other sports, he also is involved in many other

activities including marching band, concert band, pep band, show band, jazz band, wind ensemble, student council, National Honor Society, Quiz Bowl, Science Olympiad, and chess club.

Fay's favorite teachers are band instructor Shawn Pfanstiel and business teacher Diane Rouzee.

"Justin works hard at his many interests and activities and seems to succeed at all of them. Justin has been a great section leader for the trumpets in band, leading them through sectional rehearsals and preparing them for performances. He is prepared not only to play his own part (of which he has earned a solo in the show this year), but to teach others in his section their parts as well," Pfanstiel said.

Rouzee also believes Fay is a hard-working, but humorous student.

"Justin has made my day being in my accounting and advanced accounting classroom. He is intelligent, talented, and smart. He has taught me a lot of things including chess and Rubik's cubes. He has an excellent attitude and is really funny," Rouzee said.

As the season ends, Fay has an overall record of eighteen wins and thirteen loses. At the state tournament, he won his first two matches and finished in the top eight.



Senior Justin Fay returns a ball during a match.  
PHOTO BY COLLEEN CHILDERS.

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

*Dalton Stout, class of 2014*

Dalton Stout is currently attending the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He is involved in Cornhusker marching band and The Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps, a semi-professional marching band that travels the country all summer long.

"I am currently enjoying my second season as a Cornhusker marching band member. It's a great experience, and definitely has had a major impact on my life. As a music major, all of my classes are in the music building, so it's hard to make friends that aren't music majors. Thanks to the CMB flag line, however, my best friend and housemate here is actually an architecture major! Plus, while it's fun to be a part of the 90,000+ fans that are the Husker Nation, it's even more fun to perform in front of them. Some professional groups don't even get to perform for 50,000 people, and here I am-- a sophomore in college--doing what I love before almost a million people," Stout said.

Amanda Decker  
STAFF WRITER



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY  
DALTON STOUT

## Fall Sports Breakdown

**Football:** Finished the regular season with a record of 6-3. Made the state playoff as the #7 seed in Class B. Will face Lincoln Pius X on October 30.

**Volleyball:** Finished the regular season with a record of 29-2. Districts start Tuesday Nov. 3rd.

**Cross Country:** At state, Junior Mitch Fisher finished 54th with a time of 18:08. Junior Madison Bahe finished 29th with a time of 21:13.

**Girls Golf:** Made State as a team and finished 11th. Senior Emily Jeffers individually finished T-35th with a two-day score of 201.

**Boys Tennis:** Senior Justin Fay won his first two matches at State and finished in the top eight at the state tournament.

**Softball:** Made the state tournament as the fifth seed. Made it into the final six teams.



# Do teens have an internet addiction?

CELESTE THOMPSON  
STAFF WRITER

According to slideshows on the Slide and Share website, one in every 25 teens have admitted to an irresistible urge to be on the internet, or reported they have tried to cut back on their internet use. They recorded that there was a tension when they weren't online.

Everyone is concerned about the advantage the students have. They literally have the world at their finger tips.

According to study leader Timothy Liu and his colleagues from Yale University, "Problematic internet use may be present in about four percent of high school students in the US."

In an experiment, they surveyed students at 10 different high schools in Connecticut, asking more than 150 questions. Girls were more likely to say yes to having anxiety and tension while not being on the internet.

More boys admitted to spending in excess 20 hours a week online.

A little over 47 percent of students use the internet to play online games most of the time. In 2013, seniors in high school were rated the most out of every age groups to be addicted to the internet.

Some factors for an internet addiction are excessive social networking, excessive online shopping, playing online games, and excessive blogging. About 24 percent of Facebook users have missed an important moment in their life while trying to share it.

It is proven that too much internet usage can cause damage to the structure of your brain. Internet addiction has its symptoms like any other addictions such as withdrawal when your computer is inaccessible, social isolation and fatigue.

"In The Effects Of The Internet On The Youth Of Today!" by Austin McCann, he finds that when youth are exposed to certain

content on the internet, it tends to cause harm on their academics. There are also more literature about youth internet addiction and findings.

A little more than half of people spend more than four hours on the internet daily. It was proven that less than half of people use the internet for educational reasons. More than half of people think the internet affects youth negatively.

Most teens today think the internet is a necessity and would call 911 if their wifi wasn't working. They spend like six hours watching cat videos, instead of studying, and then cram for a test the night before. They get impatient when they are away from their phones or laptops. Some people fail to identify what is appropriate and valuable to them.

Internet addiction is a worldwide thing, not just in the U.S. It's a concern for everyone because of the influence that the internet has had on this generation.

# STRESS

**"One in every 25 teens have admitted to an irresistible urge to be on the internet"**

**Teenagers  
their stress  
You  
between**

**Stress: "The challenge a situation will have"**

# Sleepy brains in sleepy teenagers affect schoolwork

KAYLEE GIBSON  
STAFF WRITER

Adolescents can be very confusing creatures. They are their own species it seems. One of the things people would consider the most odd in adolescents is their sense of time. Lots of people, it seems, are upset that high schoolers, especially, are complete zombies in the morning and are hyperactive at night. Those people are not wrong. In adolescents, the circadian clock, which measures the hours in a day, is often set forward by about three hours.

Teens require between 8.25-9.5 hours of sleep each night, but most are getting only 6.5-7.25 on average. This sleep deprivation is the cause of what people would call "crashing".

The National Sleep Foundation has performed many studies on teen sleep behavior and have discovered attainable conclusions.

"The roots of the problem include poor teen sleep habits that do not allow for enough hours of quality sleep; hectic schedules with after school activities and jobs, homework hours and family obligations; and a clash between societal demands, such as early school start times, and

biological changes that put most teens on a later sleep-wake clock," the Foundation said.

Huge risks fall into play with drowsy teens. Sleepiness combined with the underdeveloped brain can cause large problems.

"Young people who do not get enough sleep night after night carry a significant risk for drowsy driving; emotional and behavioral problems such as irritability, depression, poor impulse control and violence; health complaints; tobacco and alcohol use; impaired cognitive function and decision-making; and lower overall performance in everything from academics to athletics," the Foundation said.

School start times even play a very large part in the adolescent circadian clock.

"Teens spend a great portion of each day in school; however, they are unable to maximize the learning opportunities afforded by the education system, since sleep deprivation impairs their ability to be alert, pay attention, solve problems, cope with stress and retain information."

The National Sleep Foundation performed many sleep studies on various adolescents and have found a sense of hope for adolescent sleep

habits.

"In studies where adolescents are paid to keep a specific sleep schedule and wear eyeshades to exclude light during evening hours, measurements of melatonin secretion show that the rhythm had moved significantly toward a designated time. This means that with time, effort, and money, researchers can get adolescents to reset their clocks."

The National Sleep Foundation mentioned that adolescents themselves would have to put in most of the effort.

"Obviously, moving bell times is one major step in a larger picture of ensuring that adolescents get the sleep they need. It will not put more hours in the day, so it is important for teens to know about their sleep needs and have the skills to make a conscious effort to get a good night's sleep. Many teens assume they are expected to function with a lack of sleep, but sleep is not optional; it is biologically necessary. If sleep is incorporated into educational efforts, teens will be armed with information that will enable them to use a later school start time to their advantage," the Foundation said.



# S IN TEENS

s today struggle to balance  
essors in modern society  
can find balance  
en school and your  
social life!

The body's way of rising to a  
and preparing to meet a tough  
th focus, strength, stamina, and  
ightened alertness."

KidsHealth.org

## Head

Mood swings,  
anger, depression,  
anxiety, irritability

## Skin

Acne, Hives, Rashes  
Stomach  
Stomach Cramps/  
Aches  
Weight Loss/Gain

## Intestines

IBS, Diarrhoea,  
Constipation

## Immune System

Difficulty fighting illness(es)



\*These symptoms are common, but not limited to.

## How students can manage their time effectively



ALEX STOCKER  
CO-EDITOR

Time Management is the key to succeeding in life and in the classroom. From remembering

to pick up your little brother or sister after school, to remembering that you have to work from 5 to 9 on a given night, and even remembering to do your homework assignments for school the next day, or the assignment that is due at 11:59 pm TONIGHT... thanks a lot English teachers!

Juggling all of the activities that you are involved in and all of the other things that you do can be a taxing job.

Trust me when I say this, "I know it's difficult, but managing your time makes life a million times easier." So I'm going to provide you with some tips on how to better manage your life, even better: it's free of charge!

1. Use your School Planner - Yes, I know how lame this sounds but believe me when I tell that it works. The school provides you with this wonderful organizer, free of charge too. All you have to do is use it. Here's what I do, at the beginning of every week I write down every class that I have on each day of the week in my planner. As I go through each class during the day I write down the homework I have, if any so I can remember to do it later. After that I make notes on the right hand side of each day, like get homework for Wed., because I'm going to be gone Wed. Also in this note section write down anything else important such as, get brother from school, go to the bank, get gas.

2. Buy a planner with a calendar for every month - Yes, the school did provide you with a top of the line planner, but if you're like me, you can't utilize the monthly calendar very well. Buying a planner with a calendar is a smart decision, and they can be purchased relatively cheap at places like Walmart and OfficeMax. When I know I have a competition for FFA, I write it down on the calendar, or when I have a meeting for another activity I write it down too.

I have seen people that have work schedules adding them to this calendar as well.

3. Use Time Effectively - By using this two planner system you should be able to see your life planned out on a weekly basis. If you're given class time to do an assignment, then USE that time. The teacher is giving you an opportunity to not have as much homework that night, even if it's only five or ten minutes get a start on the assignment. You have the opportunity to ask questions during this time about something you don't understand which might make more sense if you have the teacher explain it again, plus it will help eliminate those frustrating headaches you get when you don't understand something.

4. Don't OVERBOOK yourself - If you can, limit yourself with your activities so that you don't have to be at more than one place at the same time. An example might be if you know you have a choir practice Saturday at 6:30pm and you also have to volunteer at a certain place that same night: well, it's going to be kind of difficult to be singing and volunteering across town at the same time. Another example would be if you have to work right after school, but you need to get a scholarship turned in that night. I don't think your boss is going to be like, "no, Johnny you take a three hour break to work on scholarships; that's okay, we will be busy without you." If your boss says that's okay, then stay there and never leave, because that's not how it is at a lot of places. Both of these circumstances could have been easily avoided if the person wrote down their activities and managed their time effectively.

5. Take Time for You - It's okay if you need a five minute break every once in awhile. You can't be expected to work, work, work forever, especially in high school. Just don't find yourself taking those five minute breaks too often. Even if you reward yourself with a few hours on Saturday to enjoy the Huskers game, that's okay; make sure you allow that time to be taken, and have a plan to get your other responsibilities done either before or after the game.



# LEGIT COMICS

by ERIC SCHNECKLOTH



# NINTENDO EDUCATION SYSTEM

by RYAN SCHNECKLOTH



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# Senior Spotlight

BRENDEN HOLLING  
STAFF WRITER

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

VIKING SAGA

PAGE 9

## Ryan Wiese

Age: 17

**Middle School:** one-R

**Activities:** Band, Show Band, FBLA, Quiz Bowl, Student Council, Trap

**Plans for after high school:** Go to college.

**Advice for underclassmen:** Do a lot of activities, if you like them stay in it, and if you don't like it don't stay. Activities are a great way to meet people and make friends.

**Other interesting facts:** I have been to the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.



## Taylor Hovie

Age: 17

**Middle School:** one-R

**Activities:** Volleyball, FFA, 14 Karat Gold, and 4-H

**Plans for after high school:** move to California and study Music Business and volunteer at music festivals.

**Advice to underclassmen:** Do what makes you happy. Only you know what's best for you.

**Other interesting facts:** My three favorite bands are Pierce The Veil, Of Mice & Men, and Bring Me The Horizon.



## Wyatt Socha

Age: 17

**Middle School:** Westridge Middle School

**Activities:** Football, Weight Lifting, Viking Snarl

**Plans after high school:** Go to college (4-year).

**Advice to underclassmen:** Quit being such failures. In life, you don't get paid for doing what you're supposed to do.

**Other interesting facts:** Nothing that I would ever boast about.



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# Book gives solid second story to *Maze Runner* series

KAYLEE GIBSON  
STAFF WRITER

*The Scorch Trials* is the second book in the post-apocalyptic, young adult trilogy *Maze Runner* series by James Dashner.

The book continues the story of Thomas and the Gladers and their life after the Maze. They must now face Phase 2 of the trial WICKED is forcing them and other groups to complete. Phase 2 is the *Scorch Trials*; the Gladers must travel through the Scorch, a barren wasteland filled with mad, sick people called Cranks and empty ghost towns, until they reach the safe haven.

The pacing of this novel is very rollercoaster-like, which is good because as soon as the reader may be getting bored, a big event will happen and hook them again. I may sound crazy, but I like the vio-

lence that this novel has to offer.

It isn't too gory or descriptive, but it strikes the reader in the heart and compels them with emotion.

Another thing I really like about this book is the unique setting. The Scorch, as it's described, is a very interesting setting and I haven't read anything like it.

I definitely praise Dashner on this uncommon setting. I think that the setting made the book really realistic and the way the characters reacted to the setting was spot on. I could really tell how they felt about the heat and the Cranks.

The conflict in this series, some would argue, is WICKED, but I'm really not sure what the conflict is, even after finishing the trilogy. I think that's a good thing. It keeps me guessing and wondering even after the series is finished. In the first

book, the WICKED organization was the obvious villain, but in the *Scorch Trials*, some of my favorite characters side with WICKED. I'm still not quite sure who I side with.

Overall, I really like this book. Just like the *Hunger Games* series and the *Divergent* trilogy, the second book in the series is really the turning point before the final climax in the last book of the trilogy.

The only downside of this book, is that I still get a little confused about the conflict. It is very unclear to me.

I would recommend this book and the trilogy to anyone who enjoys post-apocalyptic, young adult novels. I always recommend reading the books before watching the movie.



## *Scorch Trials* movie fails to capture essence of book

MITCHELL EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

During its opening week, I went to see *The Scorch Trials*, the sequel to *The Maze Runner*. *The Scorch Trials* is about a group of boys led by Thomas [Dylan O'Brien] through the post apocalyptic San Francisco now turned into a desert, to get to a new safe haven led by a group known as the Right Arm.

I thought that the movie had a good plot line, but could have detailed the characters more; for instance, where they came from. Aris, [Jacob Lofland] was just dropped into the movie with very little background. I also felt like the movie was a little rushed in the beginning, giving just enough information as to why they would escape from a place that had saved them from the previous movie.

Aside from the lack of detail in the beginning of the movie, it has a decent amount of action scenes. Whether that

be fleeing from zombie like creatures called "Cranks", or running through the desert with deadly lightning bolts raining from the sky. As the group progresses through the desert, they meet some unlikely friends: Jorge [Giancarlo Esposito] and Brenda [Rosa Salazar]. As the movie continues, you and the characters learn that Thomas is intended to be the leader of the group, which in turn, puts the rest of his friends feeling like they are in the background.

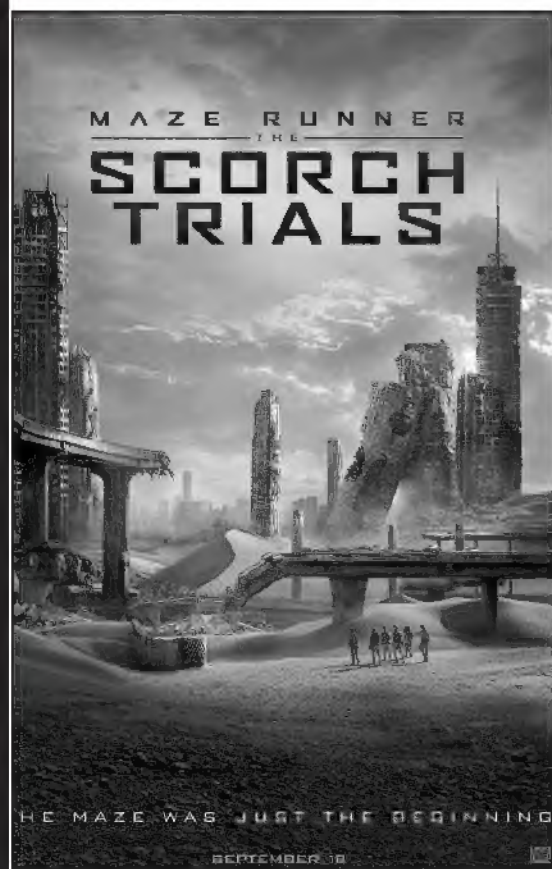
With a movie like *The Scorch Trials*, there are a lot of special effects involved. The desert, for instance, was all digitally put into the movie. I think that they did an amazing job with the special effects; it looks like they were really in the middle of a desert. In response to the Cranks facial features, you can see that 21st Century Fox really likes to pay attention to detail.

As someone who has read *The Scorch Trials* book and

then watched the movie eager to see how they brought one of my favorite books to the big screen, there were a lot of details left out. One example would be how the movie did not include a group of all girls from another Maze known as Group B. Group B also escaped from their new "safe haven" and helped Thomas and the group escape the Scorch.

I disliked the movie because if you read the book first and then watched the movie, you will most likely slip into a slight depression like I did because of how different it is.

Overall, *The Scorch Trials* movie lacks content, but makes up for in how much detail they put into the setting. I also like how well the actors that were casted portrayed their given roles. All in all, I think the movie was good, but could have been a lot better if the creators would have stuck to the plot line of the book, instead of making up their own version instead.





# Horror stories with more sadness than scares

CELESTE THOMPSON  
STAFF WRITER

Stephen King's 47th published book *Everything's Eventual: 14 Dark Tales*, was not only depressing, but also very strange. All the stories were dealing with death. Some of the tales were quite boring, but some were pretty intense and creepy. Yet, I was not pulled in to read more. I liked about half of the short stories, but some were not in my usual interests. Feeling depressed is not a feeling I want to put together with being scared, I would really rather be scared than sad.

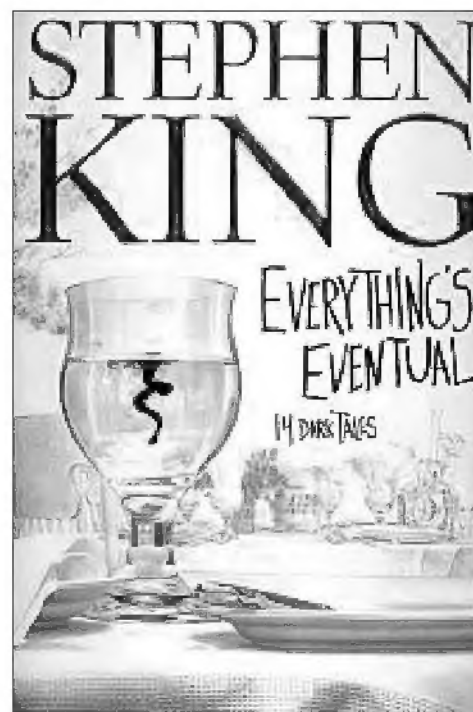
Stephen King writes very well, but I did not like this certain novella. I've heard that a lot of his books are disturbing, and some of his short stories aren't as interesting. If you consider yourself easily scared, this book is for

you. If you want to be scared to the point where you can't sleep, keep moving along, buddy.

It was a well written book, and some of the short stories made me think, and they had some humor. The comic relief was a nice touch. It is really long, so if you get bored easily with books, you'll maybe read to page 100. It's not that intriguing or appealing if you ask me, but it had some charm. I didn't like it that much, but that's just me. Each story was meant to creep you out, I think. The stories weren't brilliant, they were just alright. I could have gone without the pervertish parts in the book, but I think that is just the way Stephen King writes. Some things were really inappropriate, in my opinion. Read it if you don't mind a funny, yet depressing story.

My favorite story was "1408" because it was a haunted hotel story. The guy literally gets stuck in a creepy hotel. If that's not scary to think about, then I don't know what is. They creep me out the most. I recommend maybe just reading that story. Overall, I would say it's an okay book, but I don't recommend it if you want to be scared.

The first story was called "Autopsy Room Four." This was about a man waking up completely paralyzed and in an autopsy room. It was both scary and intense to think about. I would be terrified, but Stephen King did not do a good job portraying the feeling of being scared. At least, I did not depict that. The book is in the Northwest library, so read it if you think you'll like it, but I don't recommend it.



# The USA needs to rescue Private Ryan yet again

AUSTIN FRANCISCO  
STAFF WRITER

The United States keeps losing Matt Damon and we keep making movies about getting him back. *The Martian* takes place in the not too distant future where we have made several advancements in space travel technology. Matt Damon plays an astronaut named Mark Watney who gets stuck on Mars after a fierce storm forces his team to leave. Now Matt Damon must find a way to survive on Mars until he can be rescued.

*The Martian* is easily one of the best films to come out this year. The film is directed by Ridley Scott who uses his science fiction directing experience to make *The Martian* a well shot and entertaining movie. Scott's directing makes the planet Mars feel like a character in the movie as it is a completely different world from what we are used to. Although the movie is based off a book, Ridley Scott had to visualize the movie and he does so in a stupendous fashion.

The film uses many creative yet, scientifically plausible ideas to keep Mark Watney alive. While science in a movie can be boring, in *The Martian*, you actually become fascinated by how this astronaut is able to keep himself alive. Drew Goddard, the screenwriter of *The Mar-*



*tian*, blends dialogue and science in a way that's interesting while also keeping the pace of the film going. Speaking of dialogue, the dialogue in *The Martian* is very well done as it develops the characters while still moving the story along

and is able to give the film some funny moments.

The cast of *The Martian* is very large with many recognizable actors such as Jessica Chastain and Jeff Daniels. Everyone does very well in their roles and they feel like real people. The most stand out performance though comes from the main star of the film, Matt Damon, who has to act with almost no other actors in the movie. The way Damon portrays his character makes you care for him and makes you want him to get off Mars.

There aren't too many flaws in *The Martian* but it's not completely perfect. Near the end of the second act the film drags just a little bit but it gets interesting again soon after that. Also the astronaut team that started on Mars with Matt Damon at the beginning of the movie could have used some more character development, as you don't completely feel like you know these characters.

Overall, *The Martian* is a very well made science fiction movie that is creative while not being boring. Thanks to a good director, a good writer, and a very charismatic main actor, *The Martian* is a very entertaining movie. I would recommend seeing *The Martian* to anyone who has even the slightest amount of interest in the film.





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